

Strains. The wide array of talent and ideas possessed by these individuals and countless others has developed NIRPC's focus and promises its future success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating NIRPC. For the past 50 years, the organization has touched the lives of countless individuals through its unwavering commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana.

TRIBUTE TO DOCTOR TOM
LARWOOD AND HIS LEADERSHIP
ON VALLEY FEVER RESEARCH

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Dr. Tom Larwood, who passed away on September 6, 2016 at the age of 90. He was a devoted community leader in Kern County, California, a pioneer in Valley Fever research, and a good friend of mine.

Doctor Tom—as he was known in Bakersfield—served in the Navy Hospital Corps and went on to graduate from the University of Southern California's School of Medicine. Active in his local Methodist church, Tom went on a missionary trip to South Korea in 1955 where he provided medical assistance and was instrumental in the construction of a new hospital in Wonju. Currently, Wonju Severance Christian Hospital is the largest university hospital in central Korea, a lasting marker of Tom's desire to help others. Despite contracting polio during his time in South Korea, Tom continued to lead a life of profound professional accomplishment and remained fiercely dedicated to community service.

Tom settled in Bakersfield in the 1950s. During this time, he practiced medicine at Kern County General Hospital, now the Kern Medical Center, where he rose to the position of Chief of Internal Medicine. Over the course of his career, he became a respected leader and expert, both locally and nationally, on Valley Fever. He worked closely with others, including Dr. Royce Johnson and the late Dr. Hans Einstein, to raise awareness of this disease, educate health care professionals on how to diagnose and treat it, pioneer treatments and other therapies to combat Valley Fever, and promote the development of a Valley Fever vaccine—an endeavor that continues today.

Valley Fever—formally known as coccidioidomycosis—is a disease caused by a fungus that is found in soil mainly in the American southwest and is contracted by inhaling spores into the lungs. This disease has long been a threat to our community and is particularly dangerous to individuals with compromised immune systems and the elderly. Tom and his wife, Pauline, whom he married in 1972, worked tirelessly with the Valley Fever Americas Foundation for more than two decades to spread awareness of Valley Fever and raise money to fund critical research designed to stamp out this disease. In fact, I was honored to recently present the Larwoods with the Hans Einstein Lifetime Achievement Award for their work on Valley Fever.

After retiring from medical practice in 1991, Tom remained an active participant in an array of local medical boards and was an enthusiastic volunteer with the American Lung Association, Boy Scouts of America (he was an Eagle Scout), Bethany Homeless Center, and the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra, among others.

I considered the advice Doctor Tom gave me—whether on Valley Fever, health care issues, or how to better serve our community—as invaluable. He is survived by Pauline, his children, David, Don, Dean, Debbie, Diana, Mike, and Scott, and his eight grandchildren. I will miss Tom's great sense of humor and constant optimism, and I know he will be fondly remembered in the hearts and minds of the countless patients and their families that he served in Kern County.

COMMEMORATING THE 190TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SCHUYLKILL
TOWNSHIP

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the residents, businesses, and Board of Supervisors of Schuylkill Township as they celebrate 190 years as a municipality in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Swedish and Dutch settlers first arrived in the area situated between the Schuylkill River and Pickering Creek in 1713 and named the river "Schuylkill", meaning "hidden river" in Dutch. More than a century later on November 4, 1826, the eastern portion of neighboring Charlestown Township was declared Schuylkill Township by the Chester County Court.

One of the Township's most-recognized historical structures is the Schuylkill Friends Meeting House where several generations of Quakers have worshipped and, prior to the Civil War, aided slaves seeking freedom and hosted visits by noted abolitionists of the era. The Township's rich agriculture heritage includes sprawling farms owned by the Reeves family, who operated the Phoenix Iron Works, and relatives of former Pennsylvania Governor Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker. Today, more than 8,500 people call the 9.44 square miles that make up Schuylkill Township home.

The community commemorated the Township's 190th anniversary on Saturday, November 5, 2016, during its annual Founders Day celebration. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the residents, business owners, and community leaders as Schuylkill Township marks this memorable milestone.

HONORING DOROTHY MAY SHARER

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy May Bick Sharer, or Dodo, as she was called by her father. Dorothy is a longtime Michigan resident and a community gem.

Dorothy was born on December 19, 1915, and will be celebrating her 101st birthday this year. She was born in Toledo, Ohio, where she resided until she moved to Michigan with her husband, Raymond Sharer.

Dorothy has one daughter, three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, of whom she is very proud. She has a passion for animals and she and her husband spent many years raising and showing horses.

Mr. Speaker, Dorothy has been a community member cherished by many and we are thrilled to celebrate and honor her birthday this year. I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Dorothy.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF
ROBERT SIKES

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sheriff Robert Sikes who passed away on September 26 at the age of 88.

Mr. Sikes has always been an important part of the coastal Georgia community, dedicated to making it a great place to live as well as improving the lives of his fellow residents. Even as a high school student at Bradwell Institute, he worked toward improving his community as class president, Beta club president, and a district winner in track.

Mr. Sikes took his community service to the national level by enlisting in the United States Navy and serving during World War II. After his service in the Navy, Mr. Sikes moved back to coastal Georgia where his father was serving as the county sheriff. In 1959, when his father's term was ending, Mr. Sikes ran for sheriff and won the seat originally held by his father. He worked as sheriff of Liberty County for 29 years before retiring.

Now, Mr. Sikes's son holds the position—truly speaking to the amount of respect that the community has for Mr. Robert Sikes and his family. In addition, Mr. Sikes served as president of the Bradwell Football Boosters Club, member of the Alea Temple Shrine Club, the Georgia Sheriffs Association, Hinesville Rotary Club, and the First United Methodist Church.

On May 3, 2014, a section of I-95 was marked and dedicated to Mr. Sikes in gratitude of his devotion for his community. It is an honor today to recognize the life of this great man.

CONGRATULATING CATHEDRAL
HIGH SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school that is being honored as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.